

## City of Miami Beach Office of Mayor David Dermer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 8, 2005 No. 2005-02 Contact: John C. Heffernan 305.673.7035

## MIAMI BEACH CITY COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES LOCAL SEX OFFENDER ORDINANCE

(Miami Beach, FL) - June 8, 2005 - Members of the Miami Beach City Commission voted unanimously today to approve an ordinance aimed at protecting the city's children from becoming victims of sex crimes. The ordinance, which was originally proposed by Mayor David Dermer during his April 8<sup>th</sup> State of the City Address, prevents convicted sex offenders who committed their crimes on children from living within 2,500 feet of any school, park or other area where children congregate.

"I am truly proud of this ordinance and am confident that our local law enforcement officers will ensure its successful implementation", said Dermer. "The goal is simple", continued the Mayor: "we must keep these convicted sex offenders and predators as far away from our children as possible. Period."

The new legislation is set to go into effect on June 18<sup>th</sup> and includes measures that hold landlords responsible for renting to targeted sex offenders if they have been previously notified by local law enforcement officials of an offender's identity and whereabouts.